

Appln. No. 10/031,119  
Amd. dated March 4, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of December 4, 2003

**REMARKS**

The Examiner's action dated December 4, 2003, has been received, and its contents carefully noted.

In response to the objection to the drawing, submitted herewith is a copy of figure 4 showing a proposed change in red. It is believed that this change establishes more clearly that the reference numeral "46" designates the base wall of the container. Upon approval of this proposed change, a suitable formal drawing will be submitted at the appropriate time.

The indication of allowance of claims 6-14 is noted with appreciation. It is assumed, however, that claims 15 and 16 would also be considered allowable, subject to claim 15 being placed in independent form and subject to overcoming the rejection presented in section 4 of the action. It is noted, in this connection, that the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance is essentially a recitation of the subject matter of claim 15, and that claim 15 was not rejected on the basis of the prior art.

Accordingly, in order to place the application in allowable condition, claims 1 and 5 have been cancelled, claim 6 has been amended to include all of the subject matter of previous claims 1 and 5 and claims 7, 10 and 15 have been amended to include all of the subject matter of previous claim 1. In addition, claims 2-4 have been amended to depend from claim 6.

In response to the rejection presented in section 4 of the action, claim 2 has been amended to refer to the waste

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collecting appliance for which antecedent basis does exist in claim 6, and each of claims 6, 7, 10 and 15 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the "zone of contiguity".

Accordingly, it is requested that all of the rejections of record be reconsidered and withdrawn, that claims 2-4 and 6-16 be allowed and that the application be found in allowable condition.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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